

What is claimed is:

1. A method of selecting a satellite signal comprising the steps of:
  - selecting said satellite signal via an integrated receiver/decoder;
  - 5 sending a first command signal from said integrated receiver/decoder to a selector switch; and
  - sending a second command signal from said integrated receiver/decoder to said selector switch once said integrated receiver/decoder has acquired and locked onto said satellite signal.
- 10 2. A method of selecting a satellite signal comprising the steps of:
  - selecting said satellite signal via an integrated receiver/decoder (IRD);
  - sending a first command signal from said IRD to a selector switch;
  - switching in response to said first command signal, said selector switch to
  - 15 couple to a low noise block converter (LNB) corresponding to said first command signal;
  - acquiring and locking said IRD to the satellite signal;
  - sending a second command signal from said integrated receiver/decoder to said selector switch;
  - 20 receiving and locking onto said selected satellite signal in the instance where said selector switch is coupled to said LNB corresponding to the first command signal; and
  - disregarding said second command signal.
- 25 3. The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of:
  - receiving and locking onto a non-selected satellite signal in the instance where said selector switch is coupled to said LNB not corresponding to the first command signal.
- 30 4. The method of claim 3, further comprising the steps of:
  - switching to said low noise block converter (LNB) corresponding to said second command signal; and

acquiring and locking the IRD to the satellite signal in response to said second command signal.

5. The method of claim 4, further comprising the steps of:

- 5        sending a third command signal from said integrated receiver/decoder to said selector switch;
- receiving and locking onto said selected satellite signal in the instance where said selector switch is coupled to said LNB corresponding to the second command signal; and
- 10        disregarding said third command signal.

6. A method of selecting a satellite signal comprising the step of:

- sending a command signal from said integrated receiver/decoder to said selector switch;
- 15        terminating said satellite signal currently being received by an integrated receiver/decoder (IRD);
- repeatedly sending said command signal from said IRD to said selector switch; and
- receiving and locking onto said selected satellite signal in the instance where a
- 20        selector switch is coupled to said LNB corresponding to said command signal.

7. The method of claim 6, comprising the step of:

- searching for said terminated satellite signal via said repeated command signals, after said selector switch terminated said currently received satellite
- 25        signal.

8. Apparatus for selecting a satellite signal comprising:

- means for selecting said satellite signal via an integrated receiver/decoder (IRD);
- 30        means for sending a first command signal from said IRD to a selector switch;
- means for switching in response to said first command signal, said selector switch to couple to a low noise block converter (LNB) corresponding to said first command signal;

- means for acquiring and locking said IRD to the satellite signal;  
means for sending a second command signal from said integrated receiver/decoder to said selector switch;  
means for receiving and locking onto said selected satellite signal in the  
5 instance where said selector switch is coupled to said LNB corresponding to the first command signal; and  
means for disregarding said second command signal.
9. The apparatus of claim 8, further comprising:  
10 means for receiving and locking onto a non-selected satellite signal in the instance where said selector switch is coupled to said LNB not corresponding to the first command signal.
10. The apparatus of claim 9, further comprising:  
15 means for switching to said low noise block converter (LNB) corresponding to said second command signal; and  
means for acquiring and locking the IRD to the satellite signal in response to said second command signal.
- 20 11. The apparatus of claim 10, further comprising:  
means for sending a third command signal from said integrated receiver/decoder to said selector switch;  
means for receiving and locking onto said selected satellite signal in the instance where said selector switch is coupled to said LNB corresponding to the  
25 second command signal; and  
means for disregarding said third command signal.
12. Apparatus for selecting a satellite signal comprising:  
means for sending a command signal from said integrated receiver/decoder to  
30 said selector switch;  
means for terminating said satellite signal currently being received by an integrated receiver/decoder (IRD);

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